Bonded Labour in Madhya Pradesh

826. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the system of bonded labour is still prevalent in the State of Madhya Pradesh and thousands of bonded labourers are working in the Stone Mines of Raisen, Vidisha, Bhopal and other places and in similar other industries in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a survey in the State to find out the bonded labourers in the State particularly in Stone Mines and Beedi industry;

(c) whether Government are also aware that the bonded labourers who are freed from the clutches of bondage are forced to become bonded again;

(d) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take to actually rehabilitate the freed bonded labourers of Madhya Pradesh;

(e) whether Government are aware that some children of bonded labours died in Tehsil Goharganj in M.P. and number of bonded labourers had to rush for their lives under threat of inhuman conditions;

(f) if so, whether Government have asked for any report from M.P. Government; and

(g) what are the details of such a report?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (g) Information has been called for from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

Progress in Solar Technology by Israel

827. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps has been taken to find out the progress made in Israel in solar technology water management and semi-arid horticulture and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government have asked the scientist Dr. M. S. Swaminathan to make a study on the achievement of Israel in these three areas, and if so, what is the outcome of such a study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has presently identified Agriculture, Science & Technology, Culture, Civil Aviation, Tourism, Trade and Industry and Defence as areas of co-operation with Israel. Delegations have already been exchanged in the field of civil aviation, tourism and agriculture. An Indian delegation has visited Israel from 6th to 12th July, 1992 and held discussions in the areas of Horticulture, Water Resources, Animal Husbandry, Arid Zone Forming for bilateral co-operation. Steps for co-operation in the area of Solar Technology are being initiated.

(b) No, Sir.

Re-appointment of Retired Officials

828. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently issued any instructions to the Ministries/Departments, etc. of the